Extension of SAIL's activities

89. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India (SAIL) proposes to embark upon an ambitious programme to increase its activities in various fields both in India and abroad over the next few years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the likely investment required for the purpose and how the same is proposed to be acquired?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) Yes, Sir. Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has drawn up its Corporate Plan to increase its Hot Metal production capacity from a current level of 13 MT to about 22.5 MT by 2011-12.

(b) The existing assets in all the Steel Plants will be revamped, debottlenecking done to improve reliability in production and quality and new equipment installed to enhance production.

There will also be investment for development of SAIL's iron ore mines and obtaining strategic of Raw materials like Coking Coal and infrastructure like Railways and Ports.

An investment of a level of Rs. 35,000 crores to enhance its production has been planned for all the above. The financing of investment will mostly be from internal accruals and borrowings, if necessary, keeping debt equity ratio at optimum levels.

Merger of PSUs

90. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for merger of all Government steel plants with a view to compete with the domestic Private companies and international companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when such a merger is likely to take place and how the merger would benefit the Government owned steel companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) to (c) The Government has approved the merger

of Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO), a wholly owned subsidiary of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) with SAIL on 16.6.2005. The merger has also been approved by all the concerned agencies and the process is likely to be completed by February, 2006. SAIL will take over all obligations, rights and liabilities of IISCO, including its permanent employees without any interruption in their services. Merger with SAIL will provide the much needed investments in IISCO to improve its performance. Also, there would be optimum utilization of raw materials available with both SAIL and IISCO.

Report of The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee On Finance

श्री मंगनी लाल मंडल (बिहार): सभापति जी, मैं ''कर के आधार को व्यापक बनाने और कर के अपवंचन'' के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित वित्त संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के तैंतीसवें प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिंदी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूं।

Recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that the Business Advisory Committee in its meeting held on Thursday, the 16th February, 2006, has allocated time as follows for Government Legislative and other Business:-

BUSINSS		TIME ALLOTTED
1.	Consideration and adoption of the amendments made by Lok Sabha in the following Bills, as passed by Rajya Sabha:-	
	(a) The Chartered Accounts (Amendment) Bill, 2005.	Half-an-hour
	(b) The Cost and Works Accountants (Amendment) Bill, 2005.	
	(c) The Company Secretaries (Amendment) Bill, 2005.	
2.	Discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.	12 Hours